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Attachment to
28 November 1966

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REFERENCE:

DAM CONSTRUCTION
MALAYA ALMAATINKA RIVER
GORGE NEAR ALMA ATA, USSR

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

IDENTIFICATION OF THE DAM NEAR ALMA ATA CREATED
BY THE USE OF 5,200 TONS OF TNT.

2. LOCATION:

9.2 NM SE OF ALMA ATA.

3. REMARKS:

THE SOVIET PRESS REPORTED THAT THE DETONATION OF
21 OCT 66, WAS THE 32ND-LARGEST EXPLOSION IN THE
SOVIET USE OF EXPLOSIVES FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES
AND THE LARGEST SINGLE CHARGE (3,600 TONS) EVER
DETONATED. HOWEVER, IT WAS ALSO STATED THAT THE
TOTAL CHARGE OF 5,200 TONS HAS BEEN EXCEEDED BY
TOTAL CHARGES OF 9,200 TONS AT THE PAYIN-CHANG
COPPER MINE IN CHINA IN 1956, AND BY A 9,400 TON
BLAST IN BUILDING THE AMU DARYA-BUKHARA CANAL IN
THE UZBEK REPUBLIC IN 1964.

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5. FIRST IDENTIFICATION: THIS MISSION

6. NEGATION DATE:

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7. SUBSEQUENT COVERAGE: NONE
8. DIMENSIONS/
SPECIFICATIONS: DAM LENGTH: APPROXIMATELY 435 FT ACROSS THE TOP
DAM WIDTH: APPROXIMATELY 575 FT AT ITS BASE.
9. MISSION READOUT: THE DAM REPORTEDLY CREATED BY HIGH EXPLOSIVES IN THE MALAYA ALMAATINKA RIVER GORGE BY THE SOVIET PRESS HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AT 430910N - 770410E, APPROXIMATELY 9.2 NM SE OF ALMA ATA AND APPROXIMATELY 0.4 NM SSE OF THE MEDEO ALPINE SKATING RINK. THE DAM APPEARS TO BE A APPROXIMATELY 435 FT WIDE ACROSS THE VALLEY AT THE TOP, AND APPROXIMATELY 575 FT WIDE AT THE BASE ALONG THE VALLEY. (SNOW COVER PRECLUDES EXACT DETERMINATION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE DAM.) A LARGE AREA ON THE EASTERN VALLEY WALL HAS APPARENTLY BEEN BLOWN OUT BY THE EXPLOSIVE CHARGES USED TO CREATE THE DAM. NO APPARENT BLASTING ON THE WESTERN VALLEY WALL IS OBSERVED. AN EXISTING ROAD WHICH WAS CONSTRUCTED ALONG THE EASTERN VALLEY WALL ABOVE THE FLOOR OF THE VALLEY IS STILL PRESENT AND APPEARS OPEN.

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DAM CONSTRUCTION

MALAYA ALMAATINKA RIVER GORGE NEAR ALMA ATA, USSR

43-09N 77-04E

POST-BLAST

PRE-BLAST

DETONATION AREA

DAM

MALAYA ALMAATINKA RIVER

ALMA ATA

40X

NAUTICAL MILES APPROX

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67-E-927
67-E-911

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